

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action dated June 10, 2004. Claims 24 to 32 have been canceled and claims 22 and 23 have been amended to place them in condition for allowance.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time and consideration on April 23, 2004 during the telephonic interview conducted with Applicant's attorney, Cheryl Bab. The arguments set forth in prior responses were reviewed. The Examiner stated that pending further consideration after a further prior art search, the rejections of claims 22 and 23 based on Mazzocchi (WO 96/01591) appeared to be overcome.

However, after further consideration of the scope of the claims, applicant has added limitations to each of the claims which narrow the claims (and applicant amended dependent claim 23 to be an independent claim). These additional claim limitations are not taught by Mazzocchi or any other cited prior art reference. Furthermore, the claim amendments should be entered because they place the claims in condition for allowance and do not present a need for a further prior art search.

In view of the above, each of claims 22 and 23 is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: September 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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